

Macomb County 4-H Horse Project Rules and Regulations

Revised & Accepted January 2010

Section I: General Rules – All Horse Project Areas

Participation Requirements

- State 4-H age and non-discrimination rules apply
- Members must meet the attendance requirements of their club to participate in the point shows.
- Members must have passed the basic observation ride and/or jump observation to be eligible to participate in the point shows if showing in riding classes
- Any person / persons exhibiting disruptive behavior toward animals, people and Judges, as determined by the officers (MCHPC), will be removed from the show grounds.
- Appointments – see the current State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>
- The Point Secretary must receive **COMPLETED** member registration packets **on or before May 1st** of the current program year to be eligible to show in the county 4-H point shows or at the State 4-H Horse Show. These items include **ALL** of the following:
 1. A completed registration form
 2. A colored photo of the horse – a photo must be provided each year
 3. Registration Fee
 4. A current year negative coggin's OR a vet letter indicating that a coggin's test was performed.

There will be a grace period from May 2nd through May 10th to turn in items missing from participant registration packets. **ALL LATE OR INCOMPLETE REGISTRATION PACKETS WILL BE ASSESSED A \$20 LATE FEE.** After May 10th, applicants with incomplete registration materials will be ineligible to show in the 4-H point shows and ineligible for the 4-H state show for that year.

Participant / Spectator Behavior

- Any person / persons exhibiting disruptive behavior toward animals, people or judges, as determined by the MCHPC Executive Board and/or 4-H staff present, will be given a warning. If disruptive behavior is extreme or continues, those individuals will be asked to leave the show grounds immediately.

Horse Behavior

- Owners/Riders of any horse exhibiting unsafe behavior toward other animals and/or people, as determined by the Executive Board, will be asked to remove their horse from the show grounds.

Judges & Judging

- All classes will be judged according to Michigan 4-H Standards as outlined in the State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html> current USEF Dressage Tests or the American Mini Horse Registry (AMAR). Each show should begin with the National Anthem and the colors will be presented and available.
- It is the responsibility of the Judge Hiring Committee Chairperson to forward to the Judge, at least 2 weeks in advance, the most recent copy of the See State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html> these Rules and Regulations and current year patterns.
- Judges must be selected from the approved Horse Judges List from MSU.
- Judges are allowed to judge only one show per year and cannot judge a show for two consecutive years.
- Judges must not be, or have been, a Macomb County resident for at least two years prior to the show being judged.
- The Committee will determine the number of judges and rings used each year
- A double-judged show will count as two shows for point accumulation.

Section III: Saddle Horses

A: Class Requirements

- Each 4-H exhibitor, with the exception of Lead Line and Walk Trot (see the Lead Line and Walk Trot section for class selection), is permitted to select unlimited classes.
- Any style of Fitting and Showing is mandatory for show points to be used toward State Delegate eligibility. A rider electing not to show in Fitting and Showing will not accumulate points toward State Delegate eligibility for that show. A Fitting & Showing class will be available for each seat.
- Entries cannot be submitted or changed after 12:00 noon. Scratches are allowed.
- Members must advise the Point Secretary - no later than one class prior - of any class the exhibitor scratches.

Trail Class

- See State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book
<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>

Dressage

- See State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book
<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>

Equitation over Fences

- The height of fences for Ponies will be 2 feet and the height of fences for horses is not to exceed 3 feet.
- An Observation ride of equitation and safety is required for any first time rider in this class.

Hunter Hack

- The height of the fence is not to exceed 2 feet 6 inches.
- All exhibitors participating in this class must have passed a basic jump observation.
- Exhibitors may also participate in equitation over fences.

Reining

- See State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book
<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>

Lead Line & Walk Trot

- These classes are for exhibitors ages 5 - 8 for Lead Line and ages 7 and over for Walk Trot. The rider is to show in one or the other of these classes.
- Lead Line and Walk Trot exhibitors may not show in any other riding class.
- Walk Trot exhibitors may show in non-riding classes such as Fitting and Showing.
- Walk Trot 8 and under and Lead Line 8 and under must wear an approved SEI helmet.
- A rider may register for walk/trot regardless of their registration in walk/trot/canter classes in prior years if walk/trot is more suitable to the ability of the rider.
- The decision to register in walk/trot by the rider must be made prior to the first point show and the rider must show walk/trot in all 4-H shows (including the Armada Fair) for the year.
- **For all other class information not listed above, refer to** State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>

B: Showing

Basic Ride Observation

- All members new to showing in Macomb County 4-H and those riders graduating to a Walk/Trot/Canter class are required to take a basic ride observation of safety and equitation.
- The observation ride and rain date will be determined/administered by the Program Committee. The Basic Observation ride will be held at an agreed upon location. If not able to attend there will be a \$ 35.00 charge to have the Observation ride done at the Riders barn.
- Introduction to Jumping Observation and a Jump (Over fences and Hunter Hack) Observation to be administered by a screened and qualified 4-H Volunteer or Teen Leader.
- Score sheets for Jump Observation and the Group Basic Riding Observation will be completed for each member.
- Members are to provide a copy of a negative Coggin's test for the current year in compliance with State Law.

Rings

- The Board will set distribution of classes between two rings after the May 1st registration is received and totaled.
- If the show ring is not large enough to safely accommodate the entire class, classes can be split.
- All clubs will participate in the set up and take down of the show equipment at each show.

Point Shows

- The Committee will sponsor all shows, determine the number of point shows each year and set show dates.
- Age classes will be established after the May 1st registration to establish a show bill.
- The show bill for all 4-H Point Shows must remain as approved by the Committee.
- All English and Western classes will be billed together on the show bill
- No classes will be combined unless determined by the Committee.
- In case of inclement weather and cancellation of a show, no make up show will be held; no points will be given for the entire show and no refunds.
- Ring Assignments may be adjusted on day of show to keep show moving forward.
- Patterns such as Fitting & Showing, Trail Classes, Equitation over Fences, Reining Pattern, Saddle Seat Pattern and Dressage will be posted at the beginning of each show.
- Placing will be awarded first through sixth and points will be assigned when the exhibited class has six or more participants.
- Points for classes that contain less than six exhibitors will be adjusted based on the number of exhibitors in the class and their placing. (i.e. If a class has only three exhibitors, 1st place will acquire only three points, 2nd place will acquire only two points, and 3rd place will acquire one point.)
- Ribbons for all 4-H point shows and ribbons and trophies for the 4-H Fundraiser Show will be ordered and purchased by the committee.
- New or used trophies shall be in good repair and reflect the current show date.
- The last point show will be prior to the State 4-H Horse Show entry deadline.

Ring Steward

- State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>
- It is the responsibility of the ring steward to enforce all safety and class rules. The ring steward should dress appropriately for ring work.

Show Grounds Regulations

- All 4-H members are to wear riding boots while in the practice ring.
- No glass containers are allowed on the show grounds.
- Dogs must be on a leash at six feet or less and remain behind the parking pole at all 4-H shows
- No Horses under the shade huts.
- No gait above a walk is allowed anywhere on the grounds except in show and practice rings.
- No bareback riding or riding on any adjacent property is allowed.
- No riding double.

C: Project Horses

One Horse – Two Members

- Only one member is allowed to show the same project during a show season except:
 - When another member of the same family would be prevented from showing unless allowed to show the same project horse.
 - When the horse is also being used for Lead Line or Walk Trot.
 - Members from the same 4-H family must show in different classes.
 - The members must agree to exhibit the horse in a number of classes that will provide optimum safety and health for the animal.
 - If both members of the same family should qualify as State Delegates, only one may participate.
- Non-Siblings showing the same horse.
 - Non-siblings members sharing the same horse must be determined by **May 1st**
 - Members must show in different classes.
 - Members must exhibit the horse in a number of classes that will provide optimum safety and health for the animal.
 - Both Members will be **ineligible** to qualify as State Delegates.
 - Members sharing the same horse will be **ineligible** as State Delegates even if only one member participates during the show season.
 - Members sharing a horse for the purpose of a non-family member to show in Lead-Line or Walk-Trot will be **eligible** for State competition
- The Project horse does not have to be owned by the exhibitor.
- Stallions over one year of age are not permitted in 4-H.
- Any member exhibiting a broodmare must keep the foal out of the show area.

Changing a Project Horse

- If during the course of the show season a member's horse is determined to be unsafe or unsound, and as a result cannot be shown for the remainder of the season, the member may continue to participate on a different horse for the remainder of the 4-H show season provided:
- Prior to the new project horse being shown, the Recording Secretary has received the following:
 - A note from the General Leader of the member's club indicating his/her knowledge of reason or change of project horse
 - A colored photo showing a full view of the new project horse
 - A new Registration form
 - A documented veterinarian note
 - A negative Coggin's on the substitute horse (A 12-month Coggin's will be accepted with current re-test of substitute horse.)
- Exhibitors changing horses for reasons of unsafe/unsound can accumulate points for year-end and State Delegate eligibility
- If a member becomes eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show with the substitute horse, the substitute horse must be shown at state show.
- If the exhibitor neglects to inform the Point Secretary before the day of the show that he/she has changed his/her project horse, any points earned will not be recorded.
- Each member may make only one change per 4-H show year.

D: Michigan State 4-H Show Eligibility and Delegate Selection

- Macomb County Delegates must:
 - Be 13 years old by January 1st of the current program year.
 - The current registered 4-H project horse must be shown at the Michigan State 4-H Show.
 - Must show in at least one Fitting & Showing (Showmanship) class per show for any points to count for that show.

Mathematical formulation for those exhibitors that meet Delegate requirements:

- State Delegates will have the best three out of four shows used to tally points.
- For the three point shows used to tally points, the exhibitor's highest three eligible classes will be totaled regardless of style or number of classes shown.
- The recording secretary will calculate the grand total of the best three out of four scheduled point shows for each qualified exhibitor.

Example:

	Highest Three Classes	Points	Highest Three Classes	Points	Comments
Points Show #1	2 nd , 2 nd , 3 rd	14	1 st , 1 st , 3 rd	16	
Points Show #2	3 rd , 3 rd , 4 th	8	2 nd , 4 th , 3 rd	0	No F&S class
Double Judge	1 st , *2 nd , 3 rd	11	2 nd , 2 nd , 4 th	13	*Only two exhibitors
Double Judge	3 rd , *2 nd , 5 th	7	3 rd , 2 nd , 2 nd	14	*Only two exhibitors
Grand Total		40		43	

Note: These calculations are for purposes of determining state show delegates and not year-end awards. All points still apply to year-end awards given for each class.

- The Point Secretary will determine state Delegates. Club leaders will contact Delegates for July Meeting.
- In the event of a tie, fitting and showing points will be used as the first criteria for tie breaking; the second criteria will be age with the oldest exhibitor selected as state delegate.
- Macomb County Horse Program Committee will fulfill the volunteer quota requirements from MSU for the State 4-H Horse Show.

E: Year-End Awards

- A High Point and Reserve High Point will be acknowledged for each class.
- An accumulation of total points for a particular class will be totaled for all exhibitors, from all point shows that particular year.
- Tie scores will be honored and awarded.
- Participation awards will be presented.

Section IV: Mini Horse

A: Exhibition

- Show will be governed by the American Mini Horse Registry (AMHR) rules and guidelines.
- Appropriate show attire will be worn and will be neat and clean. See the Macomb County 4-H Footwear and Clothing Guideline for direction.
- Fitting and Showing is a required class for all exhibitors. Exhibitors must wear a hat (appropriate for showing) and belt. Gloves are required for driving. Hair should be pulled back, away from the face.
- An adult in proper show attire may accompany cart class entries of youth up to age 11.
- Classes may be combined together
- Judges decisions are final.

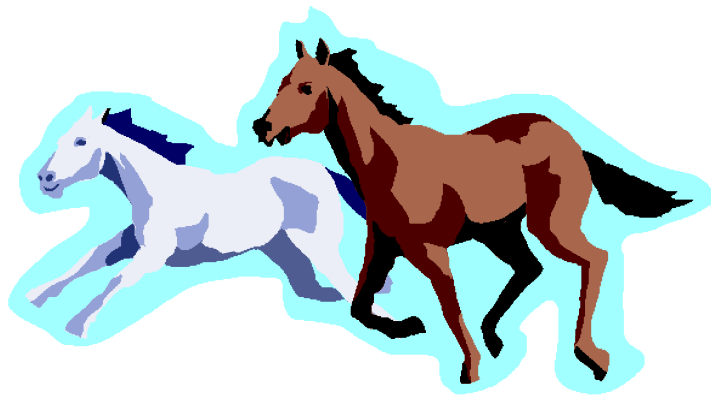
B: Horse Guidelines

- Project is open to miniature horses 38" in height and under.
- Any new participant showing a mom-registered horse must have their horse measured at the basic ride observation.
- Registered minis will use the measurement on the horse's registration papers.
- AMHR guidelines for measuring apply. Representatives from two different horse clubs must witness the measure.
- No stallions of any age are permitted to show.
- Horses must be free of infectious and contagious diseases.
- Ownership of an animal is not required. A written permission slip from the owner must be on record with the Horse Program Committee.
- Project horses can be shared.

C: Michigan State 4-H Show Eligibility and Delegate Selection

Macomb County Delegates must:

- Be 13 years old by January 1st of the current program year.
- The current registered 4-H project horse must be shown at the Michigan State 4-H Show.
- Must show in at least one Fitting & Showing (Showmanship) class per show.
- Must show in at least 2 county mini horse shows and show in at least 3 classes.



Section V: Draft Horse

A: Exhibition

- a. Show will be governed by the State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book
<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>
 - Appropriate show attire will be worn and will be neat and clean.
 - See the Macomb County 4-H Footwear and Clothing Guideline for direction.
 - Classes may be combined together
 - Judges decisions are final.

B: Horse Guidelines

- a. Draft guidelines according to Michigan 4-H Standards as outlined in the State 4-H Horse & Pony Rule Book <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/horse/horserules.html>

NOTE: The MCHPC will take under advisement any matter not explicitly covered in any of the foregoing printed Rules and Regulations. Committee decisions are final.

ADDITIONAL NOTES/REMINDERS